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DE RUEHNO #0541 2770727
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 040727Z OCT 07
FM USMISSION USNATO
TO RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHNO/USDELMC BRUSSELS BE PRIORITY
RHMFISS/USNMR SHAPE BE PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 000541

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/03/2017
TAGS: [NATO](#) [PREL](#) [EUN](#) [FR](#)
SUBJECT: FRENCH PRESENT SHORT PAPER ON PROPOSALS TO
STRENGTHEN NATO-EU RELATIONS

REF: USNATO 0506

Classified By: DCM Richard G. Olson for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

11. (U) This is a request for guidance. Please respond by
OOB, October 15, 2007.

12. (C) SUMMARY: France tabled a paper on NATO-EU
transparency measures in an informal NATO PermRep meeting on
October 2. Allies, even Turkey, welcomed the step, and
undertook to study the ideas closely. PermReps will return
to the topic after their U.S. visit next week. END SUMMARY.

13. (C) Following is the French paper (in informal
translation):

Begin Text:

EU-NATO Relations: Proposals for strengthening transparency
and cooperation between the EU and NATO.

A complete work program of the presidency of the EU will
be briefed to the NAC and to various NATO committees with the
participation of the Minister of European Affairs of the
country serving as the EU presidency in an informal meeting
of the Atlantic Council.

More frequent invitations between the Secretary
General/High Representative to sessions of the European
Council and the North Atlantic Council, beyond ministerial
meetings, to brief on relevant activities, upon preliminary
advice of the European Council and the NAC.

The development of working level contacts between the
European Defense Agency and ACT.

The establishment of a predefined procedure for the
exchange of information during crises, between the (NATO)
EADRCC and the (EU) MIC, the use of military assets for
response to human and natural disasters to be coordinated
by the ESDP.

END TEXT

14. (C) Allied PermReps discussed the short paper informally
on October 2 during their weekly lunch. All Allies saluted
the positive tone and constructive spirit in the short paper
and many said it indicated good will that would be useful in
trying to break existing stalemates. The Turks generally
followed this line and acknowledged in a positive tone the
letter from Portuguese PM Socrates (as EU Pres.) to Erdogan,

too. That said, they indicated that the letter was good, but not good enough. AMB Nuland said that it was well understood that this was the beginning of a good conversation and that there was momentum to explore new possibilities constructively.

¶5. (C) In a related informal October 2 discussion on future Kosovo scenario KFOR planning, NATO SYG Jaap de Hoop Scheffer called for an additional voluntary national contribution planner at JFC Naples to help with additional Kosovo planning, who, inter alia, would coordinate with the EU. In response, Turkey called for a formal ESDP Berlin Plus process. Every ally pushed back on this and Turkey relented, asking just for "transparency" in any contingency planning that might develop.

¶6. (C) Comment: This is the first time in Post's institutional memory that France has generated a positive initiative involving NATO. Vive la difference.
NULAND